

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/815,328

Examiner

Eric Hug

Applicant(s)

JUUTINEN, VESA

Art Unit

1731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on May 2, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 15-22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Response to Amendment

The following is in response to the amendment filed on May 2, 2006.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15-22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not disclose or suggest a method or apparatus for draining a fiber pulp suspension in a dewatering space defined between two converging wires, the wires having pressure pulse elements adjacent thereto and on opposite sides of the dewatering space, wherein the elements are arranged and are configured to generate positive and negative pressure pulses through the dewatering space which coincide in a manner such that the negative pressure pulses amplify the positive pressure pulses.

The prior art discloses numerous configurations of pressure pulse elements disposed oppositely a dewatering space defined by two converging wires, but none of the configurations provide the amplification of pressure pulses as claimed by the present invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed May 2, 2006 have been fully considered.

The amendment to the specification provides proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter.

Applicant has clearly pointed out support for the claimed subject matter, therefore the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement, set forth previously has been withdrawn.

The new claims clearly define the present invention over the applied prior art. The rejections set forth previously under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ebihara et al (US 4,999,087), alone or in combination with Tokuno (US 5,456,803), Green (US 3,450,596), or Hinde (US 1,699,487), have been withdrawn.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Each of the following references discloses various arrangements of dewatering elements disposed on one side of the dewatering space and directly opposite the spaces in between dewatering elements on the other side of the dewatering space.

Grabscheid et al (US 6,475,343)

Iwata et al (US 6,309,511)

Iwata et al (US 6,183,602)

Huovila et al (US 5,935,382)

Odell et al (US 5,395,484)

Buck et al (US 5,389,206)

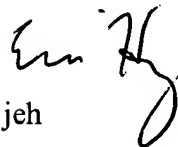
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Seppanen (US 4,306,934)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Hug whose telephone number is 571 272-1192. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571 272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


jeh